

# State of California HEALTH AND HUMAN SERVICES AGENCY



**DIANA S. DOOLEY**  
SECRETARY

## **Secretary Diana Dooley Announces Three Leadership Appointments at the California Health and Human Services Agency**

*Michael Wilkening to continue as Undersecretary of Program and Fiscal Affairs*

*Anthony Sauer to continue as Director of the Department of Rehabilitation*

*Dr. Howard Backer named Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority*

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SACRAMENTO - Secretary Diana Dooley today announced Michael Wilkening will continue to serve as the Undersecretary of Program and Fiscal Affairs at the California Health and Human Services Agency and Anthony Sauer will continue as Director of the Department of Rehabilitation. She also named Dr. Howard Backer Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority.

"I am grateful to Mike, Tony and Howard for their continued dedicated service to the people of California," said Secretary Dooley.

Wilkening, 40, has served as the Undersecretary of Program and Fiscal Affairs since 2008. From 1995 to 2008, he served in a number of leadership positions at the California Department of Finance, including Program Budget Manager for the Health and Human Services Unit. Wilkening received his Bachelor of Arts and Master of Arts from the University of California at Davis. The salary for this position is \$145,176. Wilkening is a registered Republican.

Sauer, 51, has served as the Director of the Department of Rehabilitation since 2007. From 2003 to 2007 he served as the Executive Director of the Nevada-Sierra Regional In-Home Services Public Authority. Previously he served as Deputy Director of the California Department of Rehabilitation and the Executive Director of the FREED Center for Independent Living. Sauer received a Master of Management and Disability Services from the University of San Francisco. The salary for this position is \$142,965. Sauer is a registered Democrat.

Backer, 62, most recently served as the interim Director of the California Department of Public Health. From 2008 to 2011, Backer served as Associate Secretary for Emergency Preparedness at the California Health and Human Services Agency. From 2000 to 2008, Backer served in a variety of roles at the California Department of Health Services including Chief of the Immunization Branch. Prior to government service, Backer practiced emergency medicine for 25 years. He received a Doctor of Medicine from the University of California at San Francisco, a Master of Public Health from the University of California at Berkeley, a Bachelor of Sciences from the University of Michigan and is board certified in Emergency Medicine, Preventive Medicine and Public Health. Under statute, the Director of the Emergency Medical Services Authority is required to be a physician with experience in emergency medicine. The salary for this position is \$170,592. Backer is a registered Democrat.

The California Health and Human Services Agency oversees twelve departments and one board that provide a range of health care services, social services, mental health, alcohol and drug treatment, income assistance and public health services to the people of California.

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Aging

Alcohol and  
Drug Programs

Child Support  
Services

Community Services  
and Development

Developmental  
Services

Emergency Medical  
Services Authority

Health Care Services

Managed Risk  
Medical Insurance Board

Mental Health

Public Health

Rehabilitation

Social Services

Statewide Health  
Planning and  
Development